Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 05010 121443Z ACTION SCS-03

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R 120905Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3085
INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
AMCONSUL TANGIER

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E. O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CDES, MO, US

SUBJ: TREATY OF 1836 AND U.S. CONSULAR JURISDICTION IN MOROCCO

REF: A) STATE 201355(NOTAL), B) TANGIER 0282, C) TANGIER 296, D) 63 RABAT A-111, E) 64 RABAT A-305, F) 63 STATE A-14

- 1. IN CONNECTION WITH AMCIT DEATH CITED REFTEL A, EMBASSY SENT DIPLOMATIC NOTE ON JULY 14, 1977 TO FOREIGN MINISTRY REFERRING TO TERMS OF ARTICLE 22 OF MEKNES TREATY OF 1836 GRANTING THE AMERICAN CONSUL THE RIGHT TO TAKE INTO HIS POSSESSION EFFECTS OF A DECEASED AMCIT.
- 2. FOREIGN MINISTRY RESPONDED BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE NO. 480 OF AUGUST 15, 1977 REFERRING TO EMBASSY NOTE NO. 63 OF OCTOBER 6, 1956. LATTER QUOTED AS STATING "EXCELLENCY, I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ON JANUARY 26, 1956, ANNOUNCING THE INTENTION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO RELINQUISH ITS CONSULAR JURISDICITION IN MOROCCO AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME IN KEEPING WITH THE DESIRE TO MODERNIZE THIS ASPECT OF THE TREATY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MOROCCO AND THE UNITED STATES. IT IS THE DECISION OF MY GOVERNMENT TO RELINQUISH THIS DAY THESE CONSULAR JURISDICTIONS WHICH WERE ACCORDED TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN A TREATY OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP FIRST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCLUDED WITH MOROCCO IN 1787 AND RENEWED IN 1836 AND IN THE ACT OF ALGESIRAS SIGNED IN 1906, AS WELL AS TO CEASE TO EXERCISE JURISDICTION OVER SUBJECTS OF MOROCCO OR OTHERS WHO MAY BE DESIGNATED AS PROTEGES UNDER THE CONVENTION OF MADRID SIGNED IN 1880. IT IS UNDERSTANDING (SIC) HOWEVER, THAT AMERICAN PROTEGES WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE SMAE LOCAL COURTS AS AMERICAN CITIZENS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES FOLLOWED IN THE PAST WHEN

CAPITULATIONS HAVE BEEN RELINQUISHED."

- 3. GOM HAS PREVIOUSLY TAKEN THIS POSITION (SEE REF D). EMBASSY URGENTLY REQUESTS LEGAL OPINION FROM DEPARTMENT WHICH WE CAN USE IN PURSUING THIS ISSUE WITH GOM. FURTHERMORE, IN VIEW OF SIZEABLE NUMBER OF ELDERLY AMERICANS RESIDING IN TANGIER, CONSULAR OFFICERS MAY FACE ADDITIONAL COMPLEX ESTATE MATTERS.
- 4. WE NO LONGER HOLD MANY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS, SUCH AS REF F, WHICH MAY BE PERTINENT. WE UNDERSTAND IT RENDERS AN OPINION OR INSTRUCTIONS ON THE 1836 TREATY AND WHAT WE RELINQUISHED WITH RESPECT TO CONSULAR JURISDICTION. MEMORANDUM TO NEA/MR SATTERTHWAITE FROM DEPT./L JACK B. TATE OF MAY 21, 1949 ON TREATY RIGHTS OF U.S. AND FRANCE IN MOROCCO MAY ALSO BE OF INTEREST. ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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